

31st Fighter Wing: The U.S. Air Force's fighter wing south of the Alps

THE VIGILEER

Vol. 51 No. 16

May 6, 2005

Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Volunteers needed

People are needed to paint the interior of an Italian pre-school in Porcia Saturday. Some light yard work may also be needed. Call the Aviano Family Support Center at Ext. 5407.

Parking lot closure

The gravel parking lot next to the Aviano Medical Clinic in Area Two will close May 18 soon for construction of a permanent parking lot. Patients should plan extra time for finding a parking space.

Alcoholics Anonymous

This group meets 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays in Area One Bldg. 168 behind the Aviano Child Development Center. For more information, call Ext. 5321.

Clinic closure

The 31st Medical Group closes May 27 for the 31st Fighter Wing down day and May 30 for Memorial Day. There will be extended hours at the Aviano Family Practice Clinic in Area One 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 28 and 29. Call Ext. 0434-30-5000 to make an appointment.

Grim Reaper visits Aviano students

Airmen teach teens alcohol consequences

By Au Bree Mariz
Vigileer student
staff writer

It was a scary sight when students walked the halls as dead people April 28 here in an effort to teach people about the effects of driving drunk.

With the help of 31st Fighter Wing Airmen, Aviano High School students participated in the "Every 15 Minutes" program to support Alcohol Awareness Month.

"[Even though] students are not allowed to drive here in Italy, we thought that we could still make an impact," said Renee Moore, AHS's adolescent substance abuse counselor.

"Every 15 Minutes" is a United States program involving teens in educating teens on the severities of alcohol-related traffic incidents.

The school's Project Trust team did their own variation of Every 15 Minutes.

The teens researched



Senior Airman Priscilla Robinson

Capt. Sally Binanti, right, makes up Mike LeGree, left, a sophomore at Aviano High School, to look like an alcohol traffic fatality during an alcohol awareness event at the school April 28. Captain Binanti is the 31st Medical Operations Squadron's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program manager here.

the program and were the ones who decided that this is an issue that needed to be recognized at Aviano.

"I hope it made an impact, as the emphasis was placed on the students helping each other more than anything else," said Sebastian Berisford, AHS junior and Project Trust participant. "It was meant to educate."

On the morning of the event, Chief Master Sergeant

Perry Pias, 31st Comptroller Squadron, entered each fifth period classroom as the Grim Reaper to take a few individuals out of class.

Immediately following the students departure, 31st Security Forces Squadron Airmen entered the rooms to announce the death of the selected students due to alcohol-related incidents.

See DEATH, Page 4

Wear sunscreen: With the warm weather and sunshine, people shouldn't forget about protecting their skin from harmful ultra-violet rays.



Farewell

The Deputy Secretary of Defense bids farewell to the men and women in uniform as he leaves his position at the Department of Defense.

Page 3



Annual bazaar

The Prima Vera Bazaar returns to Aviano soon, bringing along more than 100 vendors, live entertainment, food and much more for the entire family.

Page 7



Junior cadets

The Aviano High School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps earns praise from the Air Force for being one of the best in service.

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U.S. Air Force

Air Force's Future

Future of the Force: A view from the top

(Editor's note: The following are comments made by the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper for the "Future of the Force" series at the Heritage Foundation in Washington D.C., April 28.)

It is a pleasure to be here and to be able to talk about the greatest Air Force on the planet and the people who occupy it and I couldn't be more proud to stand before you today.

Not only in this blue suit that represents Airmen around the world, but as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where I'm privileged to be able to visit around the world and visit Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines at work and doing the nation's bidding. We'll talk about that just a little bit later.

I want to get right into this and start talking about the world we live in.

The first thing we need to know about the world that we live in is that we are absolutely lousy at predicting what that world is going to be. I think back to the days at the end of the Cold War and the end of the '80s when we were just coming out of the Cold War era and starting to get the first waves of sort of globalization in our face. We were looking at a robust Japanese economy and wondering if we were really competitive or not after we came out of the oil crisis of the '70s. We had never heard the name Slobodan Milosevic, we never heard the name Saddam Hussein, we never heard the name Usama bin Laden.

We were sitting there trying to predict, and we read in the paper that by the year 2000 we're going to be a second-rate economy, we'd be second to the Japanese economy by the year 2000. All these things that we were seeing as we put ourselves back in the late '80s and put ourselves in the environment.

Did anyone predict that the whole decade of the '90s would be dictated by the likes of Saddam and

Slobodan and Usama? No, not really. We didn't predict it very well at all.

As we go into the summer of 1990, August of 1990, and we start Operation Desert Storm we again catch ourselves in a Cold War configuration.

Just like when you throw a pile of work in front of anybody in uniform, we figured out how to do it but it wasn't very pretty...

At the turn of the decade, in 1990, we had an active duty force of about 650,000 people in the U. S. Air Force. Of that 650,000 people, 80,000 of them were on what we called mobility orders at the time. That was the force that was sort of carved out to deal with contingencies.

Today we have an active duty force of 360,000, and 290,000 of them in this contingency force are in the force structure packages that make up our Air Expeditionary Force.

We used it for the first time in Operation Allied Force in the Kosovo conflict in 1999. We did okay. We were ready to go. We actually did some major adjustments after that. And for Operation Iraqi Freedom we actually had 10 AEF force packages, we called eight of those forward to go fight that war...

All to say that this has been a major cultural change that the Air Force has been undertaking since we started doing it in 1994. We made that change and we think that we have put in the agility to respond to anything that happens in the world today.

Of course what I do most of the time in my job is try to break people out of old ways of thinking. I call myself the "rut control officer." We're in these ruts and we're trying to get ourselves out of these ruts.

We have elements within our service that affect our service, that affect the joint force, that affect the coalition force, that are tribal entities that we work hard to get integrated better than we do today.



Gen. John P. Jumper is Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. As Chief of Staff, he serves as the senior uniformed Air Force officer responsible for the organization, training and equipment of more than 700,000 active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian forces serving in the United States and overseas. As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the general and other service chiefs function as military advisors to the Secretary of Defense, National Security Council and the President. General Jumper was born in Paris, Texas.

People can enroll early for Extreme Summer '05

Early enrollment for Extreme Summer '05 kicked off Sunday.

The Extreme Summer program, which officially begins June 1, provides opportunities to earn points for participating in great summer activities.

These points can be loaded onto the Extreme Summer website for chances to win terrific prizes.

All active duty military, DoD civilians, and their family members 8-years old and above can participate in Extreme Summer. There will be four competition categories: youth 8-12 years old; teens 13-18 years old; E1-E5 and their spouses; and, a category for E6-E9, all officers, civilians and their spouses.

Grand-prize winners for the youth and teen categories receive an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World Resorts in Florida where they will visit all four Disney theme parks. Winners of the month-



Stock photo

It's summertime, which means people can go extreme with activities and earn points and prizes for it.

ly, early enrollment and grand prize trips can take up to three family members or friends with them.

The top three percent of point earners in both adult categories combined will qualify for a drawing to win a 2005 Jeep Wrangler.

Also for adults, four first-place winners will receive a three-day, four-night, all-expense paid trip for two to a NASCAR Nextel race at Atlanta Motor Speedway. Winners will visit the pits, meet drivers, and be treated to VIP seating.

Top point earners also qualify to win a digital camera, games, golf bag, luggage set, radio cooler, boom box, watch and more.

All participants who sign up before May 31 through early enrollment also receive their first 50 Extreme Summer '05 points free. People can visit the Extreme Summer website today at www.extreme-summer.com to enroll and load points into the system. (*U.S. Air Forces in Europe Services News Release*)

May 7-8, 1992 - The Command Band of the Air Force Reserve marched in a Moscow parade, the first U.S. military band to visit the Russian capital.

DEATH, From Page 1

"At first people didn't understand, they thought it was funny, but when Security Forces walked in, the mood became more serious. I think it hit home knowing your friends died and you didn't get to say good-bye," said Project Trust participant, AHS junior Lais De Leon.



Senior Airman Priscilla Robinson

Zach Bradt, Aviano High School sophomore, reviews a "death list" with the Grim Reaper during an alcohol awareness event at the school April 28. The students on the list were plucked out of class, made up to look like the "walking dead" and were given stories of how they died in an alcohol-related incident.

The students were returned back to class and were known as the "Walking Dead." Their faces were painted black and white by 31st Medical Group Airmen, while a sign hung around their necks stating their cause of death.

For the rest of the day, they were not allowed to speak, except to tell their cause of death.

Within an hour, 32 students were pronounced dead, representing the number of teens that die each day in an eight-hour period.

Later that day, the school gathered into the multipurpose room to watch a skit put on by Project Trust students.

Ms. Moore finished the assembly with a talk about being aware of the dangers involving alcohol. She also addressed the fact that prom is around the corner and reminded Aviano students to behave appropriately to represent their high school well.

"It affected some kids. They saw their friends dead and at the assembly, it made an impact," said AHS sophomore Sam McCulloch, "walking dead" volunteer. It was deep and made it real that you knew all these people so well, it good to know about the problem and that it could happen to you."

Overall, Mrs. Moore said the event was a success.

"I couldn't do it without my great Project TRUST members," said Ms. Moore. "We had so much cooperation from the administration and community; it was truly essential to pull off a project as big as this one," she said.

Organizations who contributed to the event include the Aviano Officer's Spouses Club for providing the Grim Reaper costume, face paint and signs, the 31st Security Forces Squadron and the 31st Medical Group Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program.

"It was a good time to do this. It really shook the water. It made students realize that this could really happen to them," said Ms. Moore.

RESCON CORNER

	DUIs
Week	1
28 days	1

Rescon Alpha

Sortie Board

	Hours	Sorties
31st FW		
Goal	1136.9	773
Ahead or Behind	-259.1	-162
510th FS		
Goal	594.0	431
Ahead or Behind	-172.6	-148
555th FS		
Goal	542.9	342
Ahead or Behind	-86.5	-14

New to the Blue: Birth announcements

Dade Michael Allen was born March 29 to Tiffany and Corporal Shaun Allen, 24th Quartermaster.

Rebecca Maria Applen was born March 24 to Emily and Staff Sgt. Eric Applen, 31st Maintenance Squadron.

Stephen Myles Burroughs was born March 24 to Desiree and Tech Sgt. Stephen Burroughs, 31st Civil Engineer Squadron.

Yasmine Estela Grado was born April 22 to Mersiha Memic-Grado and Special Agent Adam Grado, Aviano Office of Special Investigations.

Zerriah Hayley Griego was born April 12 to Cecilia and Senior Airman Dominick Griego, 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron, and sister Catarina Bryce, 1.

Sydney Ellen Johnson was born April 12 to Jodiann and Senior Airman Charles Johnson IV, 724th Air Mobility Squadron, and siblings Anna, 8, Alexandra, 8, and Somer, 1.

Trestin Xzavier Nicely was born March 14 to Sarah and Senior Airman Brandon Nicely, 31st Security Forces Squadron, and sister McKenzie, 5.

Samantha Grace Steffens was born March 28 to Jennifer and Major Aaron Steffens, 510th Fighter Squadron.

Monica Isabelle Tryner was born April 8 to Katuscia Salluzzo and Tech. Sgt. Mike Tryner, 31st MXS, and sister Alessia Tryner, 3.



Congrats to these Aviano families for their newest addition!

Family Support Center: People can learn about this community resource by visiting "Info Bank" at www.avianofsc.org.

Defense Department to resume anthrax vaccinations

The Department of Defense will resume its Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program, officials said May 3.

A memorandum signed April 29 allows military commanders to resume the vaccination program using the emergency use authorization conditions issued by the Food and Drug Administration on Jan. 27, 2005.

The program requires commanders to follow EUA conditions very carefully, providing members of the armed services both education on the program and an option to refuse the vaccination without penalty.

This significant step allows the department to resume this vital protection measure for servicemembers who are at increased risk of exposure to anthrax attack, said Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

On April 6, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia granted the government's motion to modify the court's AVIP injunction against mandatory anthrax vaccination from Oct. 27, 2004.

Once vaccinations begin, DOD will provide an education and information program, including an FDA-approved brochure, to inform potential vaccine recipients and healthcare providers that



File photo

Servicemembers now have a choice whether or not they want to roll up their sleeves for the anthrax vaccination due to conditions released by the American Food and Drug Administration.

FDA has authorized the emergency use of anthrax vaccine to prevent inhalation anthrax. People will also be informed about the vaccine's benefits and side effects before they are asked to decide about vaccination.

For the most part, vaccinations during the period of the EUA will be limited to military units designated for homeland bioterrorism defense and to U.S. forces assigned to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility and Korea. (*Air Force News Service*)

Airmen raise money for good cause

By 1st Lt. Nicole Dubnicay
31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Management Flight here raised \$2,832.55 for the families of military members wounded in Iraq.

Recently, the flight held a Pie in the Face contest to raise the money. There were 14 pies thrown all together.

"The 31st LRS Vehicle Maintenance and Vehicle Operations are now one flight and we did it together," said Staff Sergeant Russell A. Gee. "We took the top and bottom three from each element, all the officers, chief master sergeants, first shirt and commander [to get a pie in the face]," he said.

The vehicle management flight has more than 80 members total who participated in the event.

The flight sent representatives to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center to hand-deliver the money.

Sergeant Gee and Staff Sergeant Jay M. Forlino had the opportunity to meet some of the buses while they were bringing injured military members to the center.



Courtesy photo

A 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron Airman gets creamed during a recent pie-in-the-face event here which raised money for troops wounded in Iraq.

"It makes you realize that people are getting hurt, and at any point in time, we can be sent over to do the same kind of stuff, and we could also come back injured," said Sergeant Gee. "It makes us feel good that the money we brought over [to LRMC] could help to bring someone's family over to stay with them during their recovery."

4 Ways to avoid false alarms

A recent phone message had a military family convinced their loved one was killed while deployed. Fortunately, the phone call was a part of a scam against servicemembers. To help prevent family members from being unnecessarily distressed, Airmen should take the following steps:

- Tell family members about the casualty notification team procedures so they can recognize illegitimate information.
- Give them phone numbers of first sergeants and commanders with whom they can confirm information.
- Stay in regular communication with family members.
- Never call anyone with information about someone who has been hurt. Too often, the situation is not clear and the call will do more harm than good.

For more information, visit Air Force link at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010186>.

No lighters - Nobody, including servicemembers, is permitted to bring lighters onto aircraft, according to a new federal law effective April 14.

New promotion study guides hit streets in May

By 1st Lt. Denise Burnham
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The latest edition of enlisted promotion study guides will hit the streets by the end of May, said Air Education and Training Command officials at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Both the Promotion Fitness Examination and the U.S. Air Force Supervisory Examination, officially known as Volumes 1 and 2 of Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, are used by senior airmen through senior master sergeants to study for promotion.

"The PFEs are shipped overseas first and then throughout the United States with final distribution on the East Coast since the distribution center is located there," said Master Sgt. Gary Billington, the Air Force manager for the PFE study guide at the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron, which writes the PFE. "This helps ensure everyone has the book in hand at approximately the same time."

The goal, Sergeant Billington said, is to have study materials in the hands of promotion-eligible Airmen by July 1. The material will be distributed with the following priority:

- Senior master sergeants testing in cycle 05E9.
- Master sergeants testing in cycle 06E8.
- Staff and technical sergeants testing in cycle 06E6 and 06E7.
- Senior airmen testing in cycle 06E5.
- All remaining enlisted Airmen.

The electronic version of both guides will be available online by July 1 at www.e-publishing.af.mil/.

Unit Weighted Airmen Promotion System monitors will distribute the study guides to assigned Airmen, whether at home station or deployed. It is the WAPS monitor's responsibility to send the guides to Airmen deployed, Sergeant Billington said.

A significant change is that Volume 2 now includes Volume 1.

In the past, master and senior master sergeants received both study guides. Senior airmen, staff sergeants and technical sergeants will continue to receive Volume 1 only.

Both guides contain a compact disk located on the back cover that includes an electronic version and a five-minute video about AFOMS and how promotion tests are developed.

Updated information about counseling, communication and Air Force organizations is included in the PFE. Sergeant Billington said they placed more emphasis on enlisted contributions in Air Force history and added new information about military benefits, the virtual military personnel flight and nutrition.

Changes to the supervisory guide include new information about contingency warfare planning and critical thinking, and chapters on staff-level communication and civilian personnel management.

Changes to the study guides begin more than two years before they are published.

"We are already developing the 2007 PFE," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael O'Neill, the AFOMS professional development flight chief.

"Beginning 29 months before the new PFEs hit the streets, (Airmen) are asked to participate in an online survey," Sergeant Billington said. "The survey results are then used to revise the study guides and ultimately write promotion tests based on feedback from the field."

"Many people don't know that these surveys are a way for Airmen in the field to make their input on future promotion tests," he said.

Once ready, the guides are approved by the Air Force personnel director for final release.

Unlike a standard Air Force instruction, once the PFE is final, changes are made only when the document is reviewed and republished every two years, Sergeant Billington said.

To provide feedback on the new PFE, send an e-mail to pfesg@randolph.af.mil. (Courtesy of AETC News Service)

All ranks day

The Aviano Airman's Attic opens to all ranks, U.S. ID card holders and dependants 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Michael Barton at Ext. 4685.

La Leche League

The La Leche League of Aviano meets at 10 a.m. Monday in the Chapel Education Center, Bldg. 168. The group welcomes pregnant and breastfeeding mothers for a pot luck luncheon and informal discussion on breastfeeding and nutrition. For more information, call 0434-75-5606 or 348-242-5373 or e-mail LLLAviano@yahoo.com.

Couples communication

The couples' communication class is at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday in Bldg. 108. The class continues Tuesday evenings on May 10, 17, 24 and June 7. Call Ext. 5667 to sign up.

Palace briefings

The next Palace Front and Palace Chase briefings are at 2 p.m. Monday in the 31st Mis-

sion Support Group conference room, Bldg. 1403. The briefings are mandatory for all re-enlistment eligible airmen who are electing to separate from the Air Force. Airmen interested in early separation through Palace Chase may also attend this briefing. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Janet Boyles at Ext. 4919.

Grab and Go closure

The Commissary Grab and Go will close May 14. The Grab Go opens at 6 a.m. every morning until the commissary opens and re-opens when the commissary closes until midnight. For more information, call Ext. 7656.

Physician liaison opening

The 31st Contracting Squadron has an opening for a 31st Medical Group physical services liaison who provides liaison services for government beneficiaries. Applicants who meet the qualification criteria may pick up the solicitation package at the contracting office in the Aviano Industrial Area. For more information,

call Ms. Ornella Bresil at Ext. 7338 or e-mail ornella.bresil@aviano.af.mil.

Coding technician opening

The 31st Contracting Squadron has an opening for a 31st Medical Group coding technician who ensures an accurate and timely upkeeping of inpatients' and day surgery patients' health record services for government beneficiaries. Applicants who meet the qualification criteria may pick up the solicitation package at the contracting office in the Aviano Industrial Area. For more information, call Ms. Mara Zamparo at Ext. 7451.

Field day volunteers

The Aviano Elementary School is looking for volunteers to support their field day for the third and fourth graders June 7 and first and second graders June 8. Field day is from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Area D. For more information, e-mail meryl.smith@eu.dodea.edu

PTSA openings

The Aviano Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association has several executive board positions open for the next school year. If interested in running for president, vice-president, secretary or treasurer, send a short biography, the reason why you would like to be on the board and your DEROS date to margaret.carder@eu.dodea.edu by Tuesday.

FTAC leader needed

The Aviano First Term Airmen's Center seeks a staff sergeant or senior airman who has graduated Airman Leadership School to be a team leader for 120 days. For more information, call Ext. 5402.

Girl Scout position

Aviano Girl Scouts are currently taking applications for a volunteer position. The Overseas Committee Chair is an annually-appointed position whose function is to promote the goals of the Aviano Girl Scout community. The position is overseen by the USA Girl Scouts

Overseas. Duties include: volunteer personnel management, public relations with the Aviano community, leadership and promotion of Girl Scout programs and goals. For more information, e-mail Jessica Zika at avainotroop17@yahoo.com.

Cooking class

The Aviano Community Center offers L'Italia nel Piatto cooking classes. Learn how to make bruschetta, potato gnocchi with sauce and lemon custard cream Saturday. Call Ext. 5479 for more information.

Job opportunities

People who are retiring in the pay-grades of O-5, O-6, E-8 or E-9 can work for Air Force Junior ROTC as it expands from 746 to 945 units by 2007. That means 398 instructor positions will be available that year, as well as the annual turnover of 50 to 75 instructors. About 728 units are located stateside, and 18 units overseas. For more information, call Tom Snyder at the Aviano Family Support Center at Ext. 5656.

Post office news

Aviano Post Office customers are prohibited from sending or receiving items through the military postal system to advertise home businesses, to sell merchandise, to conduct business or for commercial purposes. Also, the use of postage-free mail service to transport personal property in connection with a PCS or TDY is prohibited, with the exception of uniforms and personal gear required to perform official duties at the next duty station. For more information regarding the post office, its services or other postal restrictions, call the postmaster, Master Sgt. Dale McLeod, at Ext. 7816.

Substitute teachers

Aviano Elementary School has openings for substitute teachers certified in elementary education, speech therapy and nursing. For more information, or to apply for a position, call the school at Ext. 5677.

Reel Times

Today, 5 p.m. - "The Pacifier" Rated PG - An undercover agent looks after five out-of-control kids. Starring: Vin Diesel and Brad Garrett

Today, 8 p.m. - "The Ring Two" Rated PG-13 - Rachel Keller and her son, Aidan, move to escape their memories of what happened. However, a strange videotape reappears and Samara returns. Starring: Naomi Watts and Simon Baker

Monday, 11:30 - "Home on the Range" Rated PG - The dairy farm gets an eviction notice and three cows take the matter in their hooves. Animated

Saturday, 7 p.m. - "Cursed" Rated PG-13 - Ellie and Jimmy notice strange physical effects and behavior after being bitten by a werewolf. Starring: Christina Ricci and James Brolin

Sunday, 7 p.m. - "The Ring Two"

Wednesday, 7 p.m. - "Cursed"

Thursday, 7 p.m. - "The Ring 2"

Friday, 5 p.m. - "Miss Congeniality 2: Armed And Fabulous" Rated PG-13 - FBI agent Gracie Hart successfully disarmed a threat against the Miss U.S. Pageant while working undercover as a contestant in Miss Congeniality — she's needed again. Starring: Sandra Bullock and Regina King

Friday, 8 p.m. - "Million Dollar Baby" Rated PG-13 - A veteran boxing trainer has devoted his life to the ring and has little to show for it. He takes on an older prospect and develops her into a viable fighter and an emotional bond develops between them. Starring: Clint Eastwood and Hilary Swank
(Titles and times are courtesy of www.aafes.com, and are subject to change.)

Aviano High School

BEST OF THE BEST

Aviano High School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit IT-951 was recently selected as one of 200 units to receive the 2004-2005 Air Force Junior ROTC Distinguished Unit Award. The award recognizes Air Force Junior ROTC units that have performed above and beyond normal expectations, and that have distinguished themselves through outstanding service to their school and community.



Above: Air Force Junior ROTC is located in 746 high schools across the United States.



Left: Cadets Captains Francis Carino and Sebastian Berisford, members of the Junior ROTC here, participate in the duo-armed exhibition routine during Corps week here recently. All cadets are trained to perform drill and ceremonial events. They are also tested on physical fitness and academics.

*Photos by
Airman 1st Class
Scherrie Gates,
Base
Multimedia
Center*



Members of the Aviano High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps



Drill competition is an important part of the importance of teamwork, as well as discipline.



chool Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps line up for an inspection here recently. The group was given the 2004-2005 Air Force Corps Distinguished Unit Award.



part of Junior ROTC. It teaches as well as improving individual skills



Cadet Airman Richy Rodriguez stands at attention while having his uniform inspected by Senior Airman Paul Stout, 31st Maintenance Squadron. Junior ROTC uses active-duty Airmen as role models and instructors for the program.

Fly Bys

Tourist passport

Tourist passports are recommended for ease of travel throughout Europe and surrounding countries. Passports may be obtained at the Aviano Military Personnel Flight.

Travel Web site

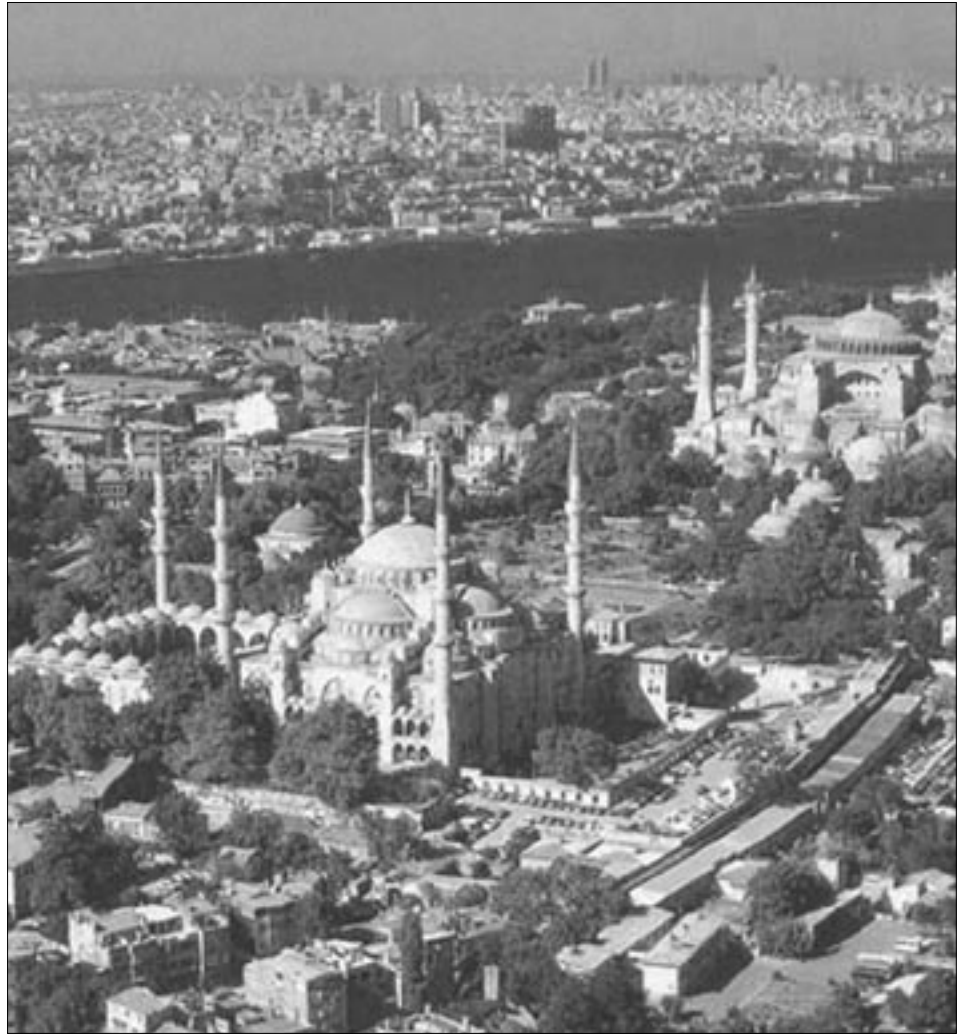
Americans with travel plans must visit <http://travel.state.gov> to get the latest travel advisories in Europe. Maintained by the U.S. Department of State, the Web site offers a list of places suspected of anti-American activity, as well as other information for travelers. Call the 31st Fighter Wing Manpower Office at Ext. 7308 with questions about the site or other antiterrorism force protection measures.

Experience Europe

The Information Tickets and Travel office offers group and customized tour packages for one day trips, express travel, overnight and morale tours, sight-seeing and shopping trips. The office can arrange travel and reservations for squadron and private tours as well as daily and weekly tours. For more information, call Ext. 5072.

AF online travel

The Air Force now offers support to customers with the information they need to plan their leisure-time activities and assists them in locating the lowest possible military pricing in entertainment ticket venues and travel arrangements. For more information, log onto www.aftravelonline.com.



Courtesy photo

Name this vacation location

This week's vacation location has endured the expansion of the Roman Empire, other invasions and various names. By 200 B.C., it had become difficult for Imperial Rome to rule over its vast area. The Romans constructed a new administrative center, to keep their foothold, and called it Nea Roma, their new administrative center. In the hippodrome at the center of the city, the emperor and nearly the entire population would gather to watch wild animal races, feasts and other athletic events. After Emperor Constantine took the throne, the city was renamed Constantinopolis. Be the sixth person to name the city and country where this location is located, and win a prize. Send answers to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Congrats to Tech. Sgt. Keith Haynes, 16th Air Force, for answering last week's question with Bora Bora.

Memorial Day Weekend: Visit Naples and the Amalfi Coast during this IIT-coordinated four-day trip. Call Ext. 5072 for details.



Courtesy photo

Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire England: visit the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill.

Information, Tickets and Tours

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Saturday - Croatia by boat
- Saturday - Salzburg and the sound of music tour
- May 14 and 15 - Wine tasting in Tuscany at Montalcino, Pienza. Price is between 198 Euro and 218 Euro. People can make a 50 percent deposit to reserve a seat.
- May 18 - Castel Brando (30 minute

back massage, vichi shower, sauna, swimming pool and Turkish bath pass)

- May 21 - Verona and Medieval Times
- May 27 to 30 - Naples and the Amalfi Coast for Memorial Day weekend. Four days and three nights touring Naples, Sorrento, Pompei and the coastline.

For more information about IIT tours, call Ext. 5072 or 5026.

NCO on pace to help Air Force family

By Tech. Sgt. Cindy Dorfner
100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

Like many service members, Master Sgt. Pat Combs wanted to do something for the families of the nine Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England Airmen who lost their lives in the MC-130H crash in Albania March 31.

What he ended up doing on April 16, however, might seem unimaginable to most people. He ran. And ran. And ran. And, when he thought he couldn't run anymore, he kept on running.

In fact, Sergeant Combs, acting airfield manager for the 100th Operations Support Squadron at RAF Mildenhall, ran 21.6 miles, nearly eight miles farther than his personal best.

In completing his Forrest Gump-like feat, Sergeant Combs raised \$1,600 worth of pledges from members of the 100th OSS and 100th Operations Group. He donated half to the families of the crew of Wrath 11, and the other half to his squadron's booster club.

A 17-year Air Force veteran, Sergeant Combs said he actually came up with the idea, to raise money by running a while ago. He was deployed and would run along "runner's road" nearly every day with "nothing but time on my hands." He said he thought pledging a run would be a perfect way to raise money and felt that he'd have to "earn it."

With his busy duty schedule, the native of Battle Ground, Wash., wasn't able to volunteer during the initial base-wide support activities for the crew and families of Wrath 11, said Lt. Col. Terry Ward, 100th OSS commander.

"(But), he worked out his schedule and allowed his desire to do something to assist the families motivate him every step of the way,"

Colonel Ward said.

Sergeant Combs, who took up running three years ago because the food and drink in Germany were "taking over," normally runs off base.

For this adventure, he ran three times around a 7.2-mile loop on base, which took him past almost every facility on RAF Mildenhall; it took him 3 hours, 10 minutes.

According to Maj. David Valentine, prior to the run, Sergeant Combs thought two laps would be the furthest he could go, but at the end of the second lap, squadron members and leadership urged him to keep going.

And he wasn't alone. For the first lap, 1st Lt. Kevin Bush and Airman 1st Class Gary Fisher ran alongside. On the second loop, Major Valentine and Capt. Mike King joined him.

The third lap, Sergeant Combs was on his own — except for Master Sgt. Shea Saul, 100th OSS first sergeant, who rode his bike alongside him the entire time.

Sergeant Saul said he followed on his bike to give Sergeant Combs a sports drink, show support and make sure he didn't pass out.

At one point, the pair ran out of sports drink, so Sergeant Saul rode to the Shoppette to get more.

"He was one mile ahead of me ... it took me 20 minutes and three miles to catch up to him. My legs were spaghetti by then," the first sergeant said.

About a quarter into the third lap, Sergeant Combs said he started to feel pains in places he thought he couldn't, but determination kept him going.

"I used to wrestle in high school, so I am used to being pushed to the limit," he said. "The other key (to finishing) was staying focused on what (I was doing) and who I was doing it for."

Fly Bys

Fitness focus

The Dragon Fitness Center is holding an Aerob-a-thon and Spin-a-thon Sunday. Choose from a combination of aerobics and indoor cycling classes from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with refreshments and prizes.

Women on weights

The Dragon Fitness Center is holding a women on weights class to teach the basics of effective strength training and why it is key in improving body composition from 1:30 to 3:30 Wednesday and Thursday.

USAFE championships

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe's men's and women's volleyball championships run May 16-22 in the Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

Batting cages

The Aviano batting cages have opened for the season. The Dragon Fitness Center is taking reservations for teams and individuals. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

Fitness classes

The Aviano Community Center offers fitness and power stretch classes for \$25 per person per month. Space is limited and the center has a waiting list for the available classes. For more information, call Ext. 5479.

Aviano Golf

The Aviano Alpine Golf Course offers individual golf lessons as well as youth and adult instructional clinics. Participants may also take advantage of the merchandise special order program, equipment rental, club fittings and golf equipment lay-away program. For more information, call Ext. 7386.

Customized workouts

The 31st Services Squadron's Jennifer Kellner provides one-on-one training for \$20 an hour at the Dragon Fitness Center. Call 348-257-4346 to schedule an appointment.

Friday the 13th Fun Run/Walk: Meet at 11:15 a.m. at the Dragon Fitness Center. Call Ext. 7459.

Battle of the services

Ricky Rudd, driver of the Air Force Wood Brothers Racing car No. 21, battles Joe Nemechek, driver of the U.S. Army car during a race at the Phoenix International Raceway last month. Nemechek came in seventh place and Rudd came in 24th.



Larry McTighe

Remembering the past

Airmen can learn from the Holocaust

By Tech. Sgt. David Duggins
91st Missile Security Forces Squadron

Many years ago, I saw a documentary called "Night and Fog," made in 1955 by concentration camp survivor Jean Cayrol and French director Alain Resnais.

Only 32 minutes long, depicting concentration camps, medical experiments and starved skeletal victims of the Nazi Final Solution, the film affected me deeply.

I felt I had lived in a concentration camp, watched my family die of starvation and seen them stacked like cordwood and bulldozed into mass graves.

It was the longest 32 minutes of my life.

I'm not Jewish. Born in 1963, I am 18 years removed from the unconditional surrender of German forces in May 1945. It was a distant memory before I began reading history books. This is true for many of us.

So why do we remember?

The best argument is the simplest: There are lessons in this terrible event, relevant to us today as Airmen and human beings.

In 1933, 9 million Jews lived in Europe. By 1945, 6 million had fallen under a methodical state-sponsored program of genocide. Adolf Hitler, advocating the Voelkisch, or National Movement, believed Germans were racially superior.

The Nazis sought to cleanse their society of "inferiority" – Jews, Romanians, the Polish and Russians. The campaign also encompassed political and ideological dissidents, Communists, Jehovah's Witnesses and homosexuals.

It ended in 1945, but history often repeats

itself. Vietnamese, Chinese and Cham Muslims were among the 2 million victims of Cambodian dictator Pol Pot's ethnic cleansing from 1974 to 1979. In April 1994, the ethnic majority Hutu exterminated 937,000 Tutsis in Rwanda.

Former Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic was charged with genocide by the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal for crimes against humanity carried out from 1992 to 1995. Mr. Milosevic's numerous offenses were disturbingly similar to those perpetrated by the Nazis.

The lesson? Hatred still happens. Prejudice and intolerance are here and now. Each of us, armed with doctrines of equality and tolerance, can influence others to follow the right path.

As Airmen, we have many opportunities to positively influence our peers, subordinates, friends and families.

Enough positive influence can reach the global family of humanity. We have made great strides, but as poet Robert Frost reminds us, there are miles to go before we sleep.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has chosen "From Liberation to the Pursuit of Justice" as the theme for this year's Days of Remembrance observance to honor the continuing accomplishments initiated at the Nuremberg trials.

The International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the recently created International Criminal Court are all children of Nuremberg, a testament to the legacy of equality embraced by the United Nations and the U.S. Air Force.

"As Airmen, we have many opportunities to positively influence our peers, subordinates, friends and families."

Kudos: Recognizing Those Who Serve



The Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental

The Cornerstone Page is devoted to those who support: junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The Cornerstone Page will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info

We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community.

Commentaries: Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send kudos to Vigileer@aviano.af.mil with the subject line "Kudos." Kudos can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.